

PATENT

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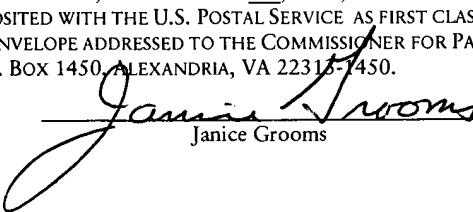
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor(s): STEPHEN D. KUSLICH et al.
Appln. No.: 10/627,589
Filing Date: July 25, 2003
Title: LAPAROSCOPIC SPINAL
STABILIZATION
SURGICAL METHOD

Examiner:
Group Art Unit: 3732
Docket No. 75028-307894

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I CERTIFY THAT, ON SEPTEMBER 28, 2004, THIS PAPER IS BEING
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Janice Grooms

TRANSMITTAL LETTER FOR ASSOCIATE POWER OF ATTORNEY

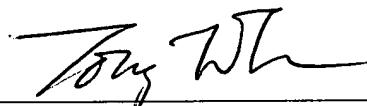
Enclosed for filing is the Associate Power of Attorney for the above-identified patent application.

No fee is believed to be necessary. Should any fee be required, the Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 06-0029 and notify us of the same.

Respectfully Submitted,

STEPHEN D. KUSLICH et al.

By:


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Dated: September 28, 2004

M2:20659126.01



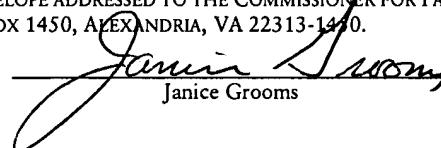
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Janice Grooms

ASSOCIATE POWER OF ATTORNEY

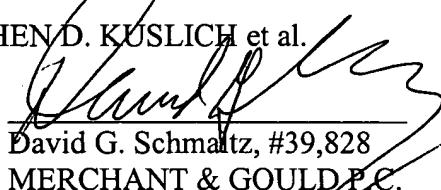
The undersigned attorney of record in the above-identified patent application
 hereby appoints practitioners associated with the USPTO Customer Number **43541** to act as
 their associate attorney, and empowers the associate attorney to receive all correspondence from
 the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, to amend the specification and drawings, to prosecute the
 application and to act on behalf of the applicant. The undersigned attorney of record also ratifies
 any act done by the associate attorney in respect of the application or any related application
 thereto.

Please recognize the correspondence address for the above-identified application
 with the above-mentioned Customer Number.

Respectfully Submitted,

STEPHEN D. KUSLICH et al.

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